

REMARKS

Claim 15 has been added. Support for Claim 15 can be found at, for example, the original subject matter of Claim 1. Upon entry of this Amendment, which is respectfully requested, Claims 1-3 and 5-15 will be pending.

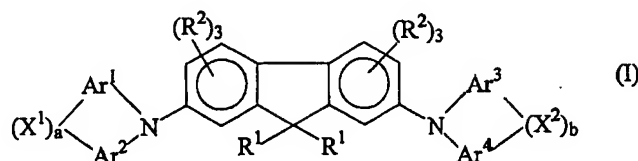
Response to Claim Rejections Under §103

Claims 1-3 and 5-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,983,482 to Ong et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0124382 to Taguchi et al.; and

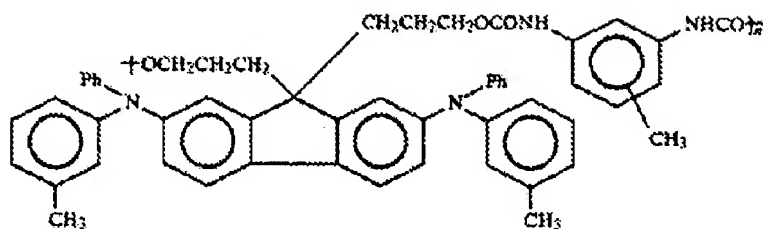
Claim 14 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ong in view of Taguchi and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0225234 to Jaycox et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejections.

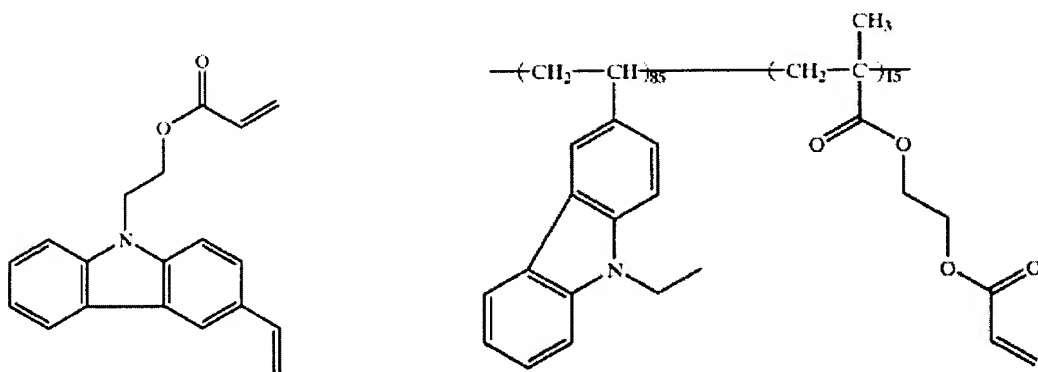
Claim 1 recites a compound of the following formula:



The Examiner asserts that Ong discloses the claimed compound, except for the specific crosslinkable groups of R¹ recited in claim 1. In this regard, the Examiner cites Ong at col. 9 as disclosing the following compound:

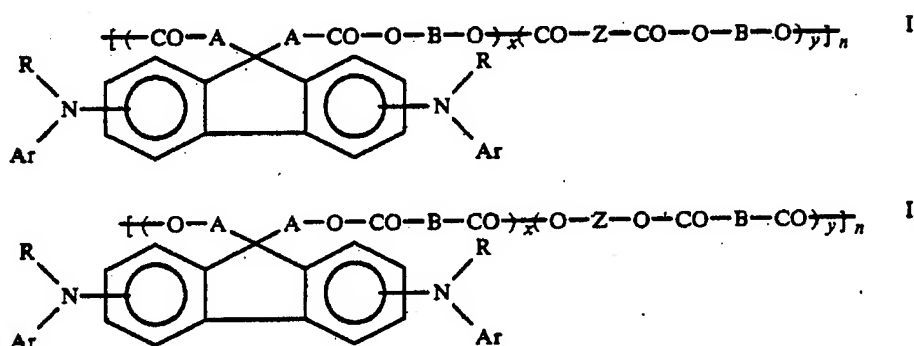


Moreover, though acknowledging that Ong does not disclose R¹ to be any of the crosslinkable groups recited in present Claim 1, the Examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to substitute the crosslinkable groups in the compound of Ong for groups such as vinyl groups (-CH=CH₂) as the crosslinkable group. According to the Examiner, the motivation for such a substitution is that such groups for polymerization are widely known in the art as disclosed by Taguchi, in which vinyl groups are used to polymerize charge-transporting units as material for organic EL devices. In this regard, the Examiner cites the following two compounds of Taguchi as example.



Applicants disagree with the Examiner's position that that it would have been obvious to substitute the crosslinkable groups in the compound of Ong for groups such as vinyl groups ($-\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$) as the crosslinkable group.

Ong does not disclose crosslink groups at the 9 position on the fluorenyl skeleton. Rather, Ong discloses bis(alkylarylamino)fluorene and bis(diarylamino)fluorene hole transporting polyesters represented by the following general Formulae (I) and (II):



wherein A, B and Z are independently selected from the group of bifunctional linkages such as alkylene, arylene, substituted alkylene, substituted arylene, ether and polyether segments. See, col. 9, lines 15-36.

More particularly, according to Ong, a polymer main chain of a polyester is bound to the ninth position on the fluorenyl skeleton, and no other group is bound thereto. Further, Ong fails to disclose or suggest that these polymer chains of polyesters are "crosslinkable." In this regard, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to paragraph [0027] of the present specification as published, wherein "crosslinkable" is defined as "a functional group that is capable of being irreversibly cured or polymerized, thereby forming a material that cannot be reshaped or

reformed.” Thus, Ong fails to disclose or suggest a crosslinkable group bound to the ninth position of the fluorenyl skeleton. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to employ the crosslinkable groups disclosed in Taguchi to replace the polymer main chain in Ong.

Moreover, according to the presently claimed invention, the presently claimed compound has a significant technical effect in that “the compounds are capable of forming crosslinked, solvent resistant films that are well suited for use as such interlayers in electronic devices such as LED’s.” See paragraph [0023] of the present specification as published.

Neither Ong nor Taguchi discloses or suggests this technical effect. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine Ong and Taguchi in order to arrive at the presently claimed invention.

Jaycox fails to make up for the deficiencies discussed above.

Thus, Ong, Taguchi and Jaycox fail to render obvious the present claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

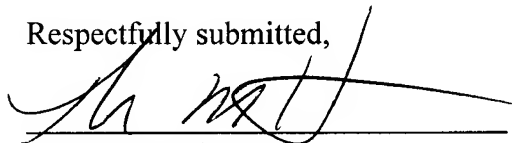
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas M. Hunter
Registration No. 64,676

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